

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

SS-20 L-03 H-03 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SCEM-02 SCI-06

INT-08 DOTE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EUR-25 DRC-01 /157 W
----- 002855

P R 141450Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9833

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RIO DE JANEIRO 4600

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, BR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - FUEL SHORTAGE DEVELOPMENTS

REF: STATE 238918; STATE 241055

1. CONGEN PROVIDED BRAZILIAN AVIATION AUTHORITIES (DAC) WITH ORAL STATEMENT AND AIDE MEMOIRE OF U.S. AVIATION FUEL POLICY. DISCUSSION CLEARLY INDICATED THAT GOB AND VARIG UNDERSTAND THAT U.S. ATTEMPTING TREAT ALL CARRIERS EQUITABLY.

2. SMALLEY OF TRANS INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS (TIA) RETURNED TO U.S. DEC 13. DAC HAS APPROVED TIA AND WORLD AIRWAYS DEC CHARTER FLIGHTS. DECISION ON APPROVAL OF FUTURE CHARTER FLIGHTS STILL PENDING. ISSUE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM DAC CONTROL AND RAISED TO HIGHER GOB LEVELS FOR INCLUSION IN GENERAL REVIEW OF PETROLEUM SUPPLY /DEMAND SITUATION. THIS REVIEW IS PRESUMABLY PRELIMINARY STEP BEFORE FORMULATION OF OFFICIAL GOB PETROLEUM POLICY. ONCE POLICY IS FORMULATED, DAC WILL KNOW WHAT IF ANY AVIATION FUEL RATIONING MAY BE REQUIRED. IT HAS INDICATED THAT, SHOULD RATIONING BECOME NECESSARY, IT WILL FIRST ELIMINATE CHARTER FLIGHTS, THEN EXTRA SECTIONS, AND FINALLY REDUCE SCHEDULED
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FLIGHTS. IF NO RATIONING INSTITUTED, IT WILL AUTHORIZE TIA AND

WORLD AIRWAYS CHARTERS PROPOSED FOR EARLY NEXT YEAR. MEANWHILE, ONLY ACTIONS TAKEN THUS FAR TO RESTRAIN AVIATION FUEL COMSUMPTION SEEM TO HAVE BEEN AN INCREASE IN PRICES AND INSTRUCTIONS TO PETROLEUM COMPANIES RESTRICTING FOREIGN CARRIERS TO THEIR "NORMAL" LEVEL OF FUEL PURCHASES IN BRAZIL.

3. VARIG AND DAC PREOCCUPIED BY FORMER'S DIFFICULTIES WITH OFF-SHORE FUEL PROCUREMENT. APPARENTLY SITUATION IN U.S. NOT CRITICAL, BUT VARIG SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS AFTER JAN 7, 1974. EUROPEAN SITUATION ALREADY QUITE SERIOUS. VARIG CLAIMS IT HAS SECURED FUEL FOR ONLY 5 OF 13 SCHEDULED FLIGHTS TO EUROPE DURING REMAINDER OF THIS MONTH. FUEL PARTICULARLY SCARCE IN SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES, PORTUGAL AND GERMANY. COMMENTS IN AVIATION CIRCLES INDICATE THAT, AS IN CASE OF SHIP BUNKERS, BRAZIL MAY BE MOVING TOWARD POLICY OF RECIPROCITY FOR AVIATION FUEL.

4. PANAM NOTIFYING DAC NOT ONLY OF ITS INTENTION TO CLOSE BELEM SERVICE, BUT ALSO OF ITS PLANS TO SUSPEND ON JAN. 8, 1974, 3 OF ITS OTHER FREQUENCIES.
BOONSTRA

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Message Attributes

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